GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:583
ANSWERED ON:21.10.2008
EFFORTS TO CHECK PRICE RISE
Gangwar Shri Santosh Kumar

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the products in respect of which import duty relaxation has been provided and the products in respect of which exports have been totally banned keeping in view the price hike during each of the last three years and the current year,country/State-wise,product-wise;and

(b) the extent to which the price hike could be checked by the said measure?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a)
(i) Year-wise details of tbe products in respect ofwbicb import duty relaxation bas been provided is iven as under:-

Year	Details of roducts
2006-07	Wheat,pulses,crude and refined palm oil,crude and refined palmolein,crude and refined sunflower oil,sugar,Portland cement,Stainless steel and other Alloy steel, Seconds and defectives of steel,Specified inputs like aluminous cement,silicon metal,brown fused alumina,fused zirconia,etc., used for manufacture of specified reflactory products,Alumina,calcined,Flourine,bromine and iodine,Sulphur,sublimed or precipated and colloidal sulphur,Carbon black and other form of carbon,Hydrogen, rare gases and other non-metals,Alkali or alkaline earth metals and specified capital goods falling under chapter 84,85 and 90 of the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act,1975.
2007-08	Wheat,wheat flour,crude and relined palm oil,crude,and relined palmolein,crude and refined sunflower oil,crude and refined soyabean oil, milk powder.
2008-09	All edible vegetable oils,crude as well as refined,semi-milled or wholly milled rice,maize,butter and ghee,butter oil,crude petroleum,petrol and diesel and other petroleum products,iron and non-alloy steel,Pig Iron and spiegeleisen,metcoke,zinc and ferro-alloys and raw cotton.

(a)
(ii) Year-wise details of products in respect of which exports probibited/restricted is given as under:

Year	Details of ban/restriction
2006-07	Pulses(except Kabuli Chana),Sugar,Wheat,Skimmed Milk Powder.
2007-08	Pulses(except Kabuli Chana)(continued),Wheat and wheat products ie.,wheat four (maida),semolina ravalsirgi),wholemeal atta and resultant atta,Non-basmati rice, Skimmed Milk Power (continued),Onion,Edible oils

2008-09 Pulses(except Kabuli Chana)continued,Wheat and wheat products(continued), Non-basmati rice(except PUSA-1121)(continued),Basmati rice (subject to MEP,grain size and port restriction),Edible oils (continued),Cement,Maize (till 15th Oct.,08)

(b) Prices of essential commodities depend upon several factors like demand and supply.When import duty is reduced,it tends to increase imports and thereby increase supply in the domestic market,leading to reduction in prices.Similarly,when export of a commodity is banned,it leads to increased availability of the commodity for domestic consumption.All these measures help in reducing price ofthe commodity and help in easing inflation.